

PURCHASING

Reference: M.C.L.A. 380.1267, 380.1274 et seq.

It is the policy of the Board of Directors that the Administrator and/or the Educational Service Provider seek at least three (3) price quotations on purchases of more than \$500.00 for a single item, except in cases of emergency or when the materials purchased are of such a nature that price negotiations would not result in a savings to the School.

When the purchase of, and contract for, single items of supplies, materials, or equipment exceeds the amount designated by statute, the Administrator and/or the Educational Service Provider shall obtain competitive bids.

Bids shall be sealed and shall be opened by the Administrator as delegated in the presence of at least one (1) witness. All orders or contracts should be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, however, consideration can be given to:

- A. the quality of the item(s) to be supplied;
- B. its conformity with specifications;
- C. suitability to the requirements of the School;
- D. delivery terms;
- E. past performance of the vendor.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Contracts can be awarded by the Treasurer without the Board's approval for any single item or group of identical items costing less than \$500.00. All other contracts require Board approval prior to purchase.

The Board shall be informed of the terms and conditions of all competitive bids and shall award contracts as a consequence of such bids.

The Administrator is authorized to purchase all items within budget allocations. The Board should be advised, for prior approval, of all purchases of equipment, materials, and services when the purchase was not contemplated during the budgeting process or exceeds the line item.

The Administrator is authorized to make emergency purchases, without prior approval, of those goods and/or services needed to keep the Schools in operation. Such purchases shall be brought to the Board's attention at the next regular meeting.

In order to promote efficiency and economy in the operation of the School, the Board requires that the Educational Service Provider periodically estimate requirements for standard items or classes of items and make quantity purchases on a bid basis to procure the lowest cost consistent with good quality.

Whenever storage facilities or other conditions make it impractical to receive total delivery at any one time, the total quantity to be shipped but with staggered delivery dates, shall be made a part of the bid specifications.

Before the Administrator/or Educational Service Provider places a purchase order, s/he shall check as to whether the proposed purchase is subject to bid, whether sufficient funds exist in the budget, and whether the material might be available elsewhere in the School. All purchase orders shall be numbered consecutively.

In the interests of economy, fairness, and efficiency in its business dealings, the Board requires that:

- A. opportunity be provided to as many responsible suppliers as possible to do business with the School;
- B. a prompt and courteous reception, insofar as conditions permit, be given to all who call on legitimate business matters;
- C. where the requisitioner has recommended a supplier, the Administrator may make alternate suggestions to the requisitioner if, in his/her judgment, better service, delivery, economy, or utility can be achieved by changing the proposed order;

Upon the placement of a purchase order, the Administrator shall commit the expenditure against a specific line item to guard against the creation of liabilities in excess of appropriations.

The Administrator shall determine the amount of purchase which shall be allowed without a properly signed purchase order. Employees may be held personally responsible for anything purchased without a properly signed purchase order or authorization.

The Board may acquire office equipment as defined in law by lease, by installment payments, by entering into lease-purchase agreements, or by lease with an option to purchase, provided the contract sets forth the terms of such a purchase.